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Annual Banquet

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Annual Banquet

ABOUT two hundred persons were in attendance at the annual banquet of the Denver Bar Association on the night of Washington's birthday at the University Club. The guest of the occasion was the Honorable Silas H. Strawn of Chicago, President of the American Bar Association, in whose honor the program was printed in a miniature facsimile of the American Bar Association Journal, displaying on the title page the names of the number of local members of the profession as sponsoring certain imaginary but supposedly appropriate legal articles.

Party Harmony

An entertaining musical program had been arranged by Mr. Edward G. Knowles of the committee, with the cooperation of Mr. Oliver Gushee at the

piano and the assistance of about twenty members of the association in the role of a chorus. Messrs. Knowles, Aldrich, Ben Sweet, and Chas. White rendered selections from well-known popular airs rewritten in parody upon subjects of current interest, the Law School situation and judicial salaries. Mr. Knowles' rendition of an imaginary ballad by Mayor Thompson of Chicago, sung to the tune of "Side by Side", was particularly well-received.

Chorus

"Well, as long as I'm Mayor of Chicago
I'm gonna declare an Embargo
On the British Control of our National
Soul—

It's a shame!
I don't like foreign-born Crowned-
heads—

I'm Cromwell of Uncle Sam's Round-
heads—
Ridin' my Nag, Chewin' the Rag—
Bill's my name."

Mr. White (without his kilts) gave a series of humorous Scotch imitations which were greeted with great applause. One of the high spots of the musical entertainment was a series of songs by the Melodian Trio then appearing with the American Legion Revue.

Upon the conclusion of the dinner Mr. Stearns, the president of the association called upon Mr. Roger Wolcott, the toastmaster of the occasion. The latter in a brief and well-chosen manner introduced Mr. James Grafton Rogers who responded with an address upon "The Changing Career of the Lawyer".

The Lawyer and the Bellhop

Mr. Rogers drew an interesting picture of the changed and changing aspects of American civilization and suggested a concurrent change in the aspect of the legal profession to meet the altered demands of that civilization upon it.

He professed to find evidence of such change in the changing types of the leaders of the profession as exemplified by the different presidents of the American Bar Association.

In an interesting fashion he discussed the career and qualifications of Mr. Broadhead of Missouri, the first president of the association, his services in the War for the Union and his professional attainments, stressing the political aspect of Mr. Broadhead's career. From this as a starting point he had reference to Mr. David Dudley Field, Mr. Elihu Root, and the Honored Guest of the evening, Mr. Strawn. In the course of the evolution of the character of the incumbents of the presidential office, Mr. Rogers sensed a trend from the political man of the

era of 1876 to the type of specialization and broad business background which has been exemplified in the presidents of the latter years.

In a figure of speech Mr. Rogers depicted the present attorney as a sort of a bellboy of modern civilization carrying a few things each from one room or another in the cosmic layout and staying no great while in any one.

The speaker referred to his own very pleasant association with Mr. Strawn in the official activities of the national association and made complimentary reference to the latter's illustrious attainments.

In introducing Mr. Strawn, Mr. Wolcott, as Mr. Rogers had before him, made reference to the official visit of that gentleman as the representative of the United States Government to China and also to other positions of great public and national importance which he had held.

Mr. Strawn was then called upon and, after disclaiming in the urbane manner which marked his whole utterance, the encomiums which the toastmaster had put upon him, discoursed felicitously upon "The American Bar Association". Referring to a remark of the toastmaster's he narrated the anecdote wherein the returned native of a midwestern state regales his saloon comrades with an account of the glorious sights of California when, upon being accosted by the ubiquitous inebriate, with the query as to whether the traveler has ever had delirium tremens, is, upon responding in the negative, told: "You ain't been no place, and you ain't seen nuthin'!"

Close the Open Bar

Referring to the legal educational policy of the American Bar Association, with which he has for a number of years been peculiarly associated, Mr. Strawn very vigorously defended his own tenets and those of his organiza-

tion as properly demanding high academic requirements as a prerequisite for admission to the Bar. Mr. Strawn defended such a policy not only in point of theory but also by reference to instances within his own experience.

He concurred in the view of Mr. Rogers with reference to the intensive growth of legal specialization and the increasing importance of legal education through law schools as necessitated by that condition. He paid a compliment to the toastmaster and Mr. Rogers in their capacity of professional men who had dedicated themselves to educational work.

He referred with great complacency to the enlightened and prosperous economic condition of this country in comparison with other nations of the world which had come within his personal observation and attributed its favorable aspects, in part at least, to the basic beneficence of a favorable form of government.

He addressed an appeal to the members of the Bar to remain steadfast in their support of American Constitutional polity.

In conclusion he recalled (not interruptedly) and delivered the inspiring lines of the two odes on "Opportunity".

The Capper Resolution

(Correspondence Between Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler and Mr. Hans H. Wolff, Civil Engineer of Denver, an Alumnus of Columbia University.)

Editorial Note: A large number of the members of the Denver Bar had the privilege of hearing one or both of the addresses recently delivered here by Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler. Because of the legal and international aspects of the Capper Resolution, the correspondence herewith published should prove of interest.

1515 East Ninth Ave.
Denver, Colorado,
December 17, 1927.

Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler,
President, Columbia University,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Butler:—

It was my privilege to hear the extremely interesting addresses which you delivered under the auspices of the Foundation for the Advancement of the Social Sciences of the University of Denver at the luncheon in the Cosmopolitan Hotel and at the Denver Auditorium on December 12th.

In both of these addresses you called upon the audience to use their in-

fluence with their Senators and Representatives in Congress toward the passage of the so-called Capper resolution of which copies were furnished.

I feel that I have a very clear understanding of what you said, of what the resolution involves, and of what will be the consequences of our entering into the proposed compacts. Yet in discussing these matters with others I find that they have taken a very different meaning, and it is for the purpose of securing an authoritative interpretation, which I may present and publicly cite, that I take this liberty of writing to you for certain specific information of importance. I am sure that you feel with me that so momentous a change in policy as the step proposed should be undertaken only with eyes open and as clear an estimate as possible of what we may be called upon to face.